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09/800,476	03/08/2001	Melissa Lee Denbar	95-462	4931

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EXAMINER

SEFCHECK, GREGORY B

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2662

DATE MAILED: 05/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/800,476

Applicant(s)

DENBAR ET AL.

Examiner

Gregory B Sefcheck

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-47 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/26/2001.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 10, 29, and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

- Regarding claims 10, 29, and 44,

The claims are indefinite because it is not clear what is meant by “an absence of the prescribed variable being set upon the instance reaching the prescribed location in the prescribed sequence” as the basis for selectively completing execution of the messaging operations.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1, 2, 10-12, 16, 20, 21, 29-31, 35, 36, 44, and 45 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gibson et al. (US006775249B1), hereafter Gibson.

- In regards to Claims 1, 11, 12, 16, 20, 30, 31, and 35,

Gibson discloses connection handling in communication networks (Title).

Referring to Figs. 2 and 3, Gibson discloses a method and computer readable medium for operating GIRAFF 220 (application server) of an interfacing gateway between networks (Col. 11, lines 26-42; Col. 12, lines 40-42; claim 1,11,16,45 – method and system having application server and gateway; claim 20,30,35 – system and computer medium having instructions for executing a messaging session by a gateway and application server).

Gibson shows that an application process is initiated at CLI capture facility 350 upon receiving a call 300 and establishing a connection with the calling terminal (Col. 4, lines 45-50; claim 1,11,16,20,30,35,45 – initiating an instance of an application process for executing a sequence of messaging operations for a first type of incoming message, in response to reception of an initiation request from a gateway).

Gibson discloses CLI capture facility identifies information for the call and writes the information to message selector 310 (Col. 4, lines 50-58; claim 1,11,16,20,30,35,45 – initiating includes writing data into a structure that identifies information based on execution of the instance).

Gibson further discloses that fax detection facility 305 detects whether the call is a voice call or fax call and advises the message selector 310 to continue with processing of the appropriate call type, moving the call information to either FAX download 330 or Voice Download 355 based on the detection result (Col. 4, lines 59-64; claim 11,16,30,45 – detecting by the gateway that the incoming call corresponds to second type incompatible with the first type and sending a reject message to the server; claim 1,11,16,20,30,35,45 – selectively terminating the instance by async event manager based on detecting, at a prescribed location in the sequence, a prescribed variable set during execution of the instance specifying the sequence of message operations are not to be performed – reject message; claim 1,11,16,20,30,35,45 – terminating includes terminating execution of the operations subsequent to the prescribed location and removing the data from the structure).

Gibson shows that the incoming call constitutes an initiation of messaging for both voice and fax call types (Fig. 3; Col. 4, lines 45-64; Col. 11, lines 48-53; claim 12,16,31 - sending a second request concurrently with the first initiating request for initiation of a messaging session according to the second message type).

- In regards to Claims 2, 21, and 36,

Gibson discloses connection handling in communication networks that covers all limitations of the parent claims.

Gibson discloses that voice message processing is not performed when the incoming call is detected as being a fax call (Fig. 3; Col. 4, lines 45-64; claim 2,21,36 – first type is a voice message).

- In regards to Claims 10, 29, and 44 (as best understood),

Gibson discloses connection handling in communication networks that covers all limitations of the parent claims.

Referring to Fig. 3, Gibson shows that processing may proceed to a voice messaging facility 315 if fax tones are not detected on the incoming call, thereby indicating that the incoming call is a voice call (claim 10,29,44 – selectively completing execution of the messaging operations, including transmission of a message recorded during execution of the instance, based on an absence of the prescribed variable being set upon the instance reaching the prescribed location in the prescribed sequence).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 3-5, 13, 14, 17, 19, 22-24, 32, 33, and 37-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gibson in view of Gibson in view of Chang et al. (US 20030095542A1), hereafter Chang.

- In regards to Claims 3, 22, and 37,

Gibson discloses connection handling in communication networks that covers all limitations of the parent claims. Gibson discloses that messaging operations specified for processing a voice call are terminated when the incoming call is detected as being a fax call.

Gibson does not explicitly disclose terminating the instance specifying a voice over IP protocol message.

Chang discloses an apparatus and method for an integrated voice gateway. Referring to Fig. 3, Chang shows an IP telephony module 59 of gateway device 26 capable of receiving both voice and fax calls over the internet using IP protocol (claim 3,22,37 – terminating the instance based on detecting a call rejection condition of a voip message).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the method and system of Gibson to voice and fax call transmitted through Internet Protocol, as shown by Chang. Process initiation and call type detection for subsequent processing disclosed by Gibson could then be performed for voice and fax calls transmitted over the Internet using IP protocol just as they are performed for conventionally transmitted voice and fax calls.

- In regards to Claims 4, 5, 23, 24, 38, and 39,

Gibson discloses connection handling in communication networks that covers all limitations of the parent claims.

Gibson discloses that message selector 310 aborts subsequent voice call processing when the fax detection facility 305 detects the incoming call is a fax call (Col. 4, lines 59-64; claim 4,23,38 – determining that the prescribed variable identifies that the incoming message does not correspond to a voice message; claim 5,24,39 – determining includes identifying the incoming message as a fax message).

- In regards to Claims 13, 17, and 32,

Gibson discloses connection handling in communication networks that covers all limitations of the parent claims. Gibson discloses that the same module is used for initiating message sessions for voice and fax calls.

Gibson does not explicitly disclose sending the second request to a second server for initiating the message session according to the second message being a fax.

Chang discloses an apparatus and method for an integrated voice gateway. Referring to Fig. 3, Chang shows an IP telephony module 59 of gateway device 26 capable of receiving both voice and fax calls over the internet using IP protocol. Chang further discloses Fax Gateway 54 which interact with a separate fax server for sending and receiving fax messages (Pg. 7, paragraph 99; claim 13,17,32 – sending the second request includes outputting the second request to a second server for initiating the message session according to the second message being a fax).



It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method and system of Gibson by utilizing a second server for initiating a message session according to a received fax, as shown by Chang. Having dedicated servers for handling different types of incoming calls enables multiple calls to be handled simultaneously.

- In regards to Claims 14, 19, and 33,

Gibson discloses connection handling in communication networks that covers all limitations of the parent claims. Gibson discloses voice and fax as being the two types of messages (claim 14,33 – first message is voice, second is fax).

Gibson does not explicitly disclose generating and sending a reject message specifying a voice over IP call reject message.

Chang discloses an apparatus and method for an integrated voice gateway. Referring to Fig. 3, Chang shows an IP telephony module 59 of gateway device 26 capable of receiving both voice and fax calls over the internet using IP protocol (claim 14,19,33 – generating/sending a reject message to specify a voip call reject message).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the method and system of Gibson to voice and fax call transmitted through Internet Protocol, as shown by Chang. Process initiation and call type detection for subsequent processing disclosed by Gibson could then be performed for voice and fax calls transmitted over the Internet using IP protocol just as they are performed for conventionally transmitted voice and fax calls.

7. Claims 6-9, 15, 18, 25-28, 34, 40-43, 46, and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gibson in view of Ito (US005594783A).

- In regards to Claims 6, 7, 9, 15, 18, 25, 26, 28, 34, 40, 41, 43, 46, and 47, Gibson discloses connection handling in communication networks that covers all limitations of the parent claims.

Gibson does not explicitly disclose deleting a recorded message prior to storage in a subscriber message store.

Ito discloses a telephone apparatus for recording a predetermined message in place of a CNG tone. Ito discloses that a telephone starts recording a message prior to detecting the call is a fax call. Upon such detection, Ito shows that the recorded message is deleted and a switching message is recorded (Title; Abstract; claim 6,15,18,25,34,40,46 – removing includes deleting a recorded message prior to storage in a subscriber message store in response to reject message; claim 7,26,41,47 – terminating includes adding a log entry indicating deletion of the recorded message prior to storage within a subscriber message store, based on detecting that the prescribed variable specifies a detected difference between the first type and a detected type; claim 9,28,43 – terminating includes halting operations for transmission of a message, recorded during execution of the instance, into a subscriber message store).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to enable the method and system of Gibson to delete a recorded message

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and add a log entry indicating deletion prior to storage in a subscriber message store as shown by Ito. This would prevent wasting of memory capacity for the storage of voice messages.

- In regards to Claims 8, 27, and 42,

Gibson discloses connection handling in communication networks that covers all limitations of the parent claims.

Gibson discloses that message selector 310 aborts subsequent voice call processing when the fax detection facility 305 detects the incoming call is a fax call (Col. 4, lines 59-64; claim 8,27,42 – first type is a voice message; claim 8,27,42 – setting the prescribed variable to not perform the sequence of operations based on detecting that the incoming message is a fax).

### ***Conclusion***

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Newlin (US 20030194074A1) discloses methods and systems for communicating and controlling facsimile information
- Walker et al. (US 20030193696A1) discloses voice and fax over IP call establishment in a communications network

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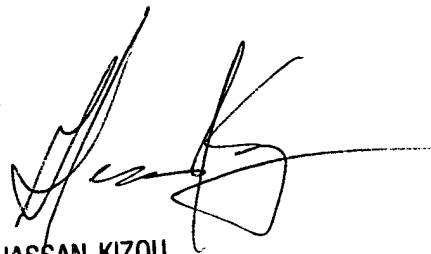
- Chung et al. (US 20030002476A1) discloses an integrated internet phone call routing system
- Rogers et al. (US006785379B1) discloses a call management system with call control from user workstation computers
- Murray et al. (US006654452B1) discloses a method and apparatus in a communications system for dynamic call rejection
- Pandharipande (US006529500B1) discloses unified messaging notification
- Brockman et al. (US006546085B1) discloses a system and method to enable a calling party to verify delivery and to cancel stored facsimiles
- Hayes et al. (US006480586B1) discloses remote initiation of communications for control of multiple appliances by telephone line
- Chen (US006463053B1) discloses a voice and fax over IP dialing plan
- Park (US005943400A) discloses a voice mailing system for performing fax mail service and service method thereof
- Terajima et al. (US005544234A) discloses a facsimile apparatus with automatic answering telephone function and communication method in said apparatus
- Kajiya et al. (US005448626A) discloses a facsimile mail system having means for storing facsimile signals and telephone signals
- Atwell (US005422936A) discloses enhanced message service indication

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory B Sefcheck whose telephone number is 571-272-3098. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hassan Kizou can be reached on 571-272-3088. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

GBS  
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